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and that to understand a form we must know its function. Professor Abel pursued his studies even during the war when his family was in such distress that he had to send out his children to friends for food, and in 1920 he produced an inspiring work, entitled *Methoden der Paleobiologischen Forschung*.

The medal was received by Edgar L. G. Prochnik, Austrian chargé d'affaires, who said that all Austria would rejoice over this honor done to one of her citizens. Conditions in Austria are exceedingly hard at present on account of the curtailment of Austria's resources and it is felt that the future of Austria lies in the mental power of her sons. The Austrian scientists are determined to bring their country to the rank which she occupied in science and art previous to the war. The disposal of this medal was another proof that science was not limited in its scope to creed or nationality. Professor Abel serves in the ranks of science, the peace maker. President Walcott, in handing over the medal to the representative of the Austrian Legation, said that the award would carry with it an honorarium which was to be forwarded to Professor Abel.

#### THE SALT LAKE CITY MEETING

THE summer session of the American Association for the Advancement of Science to be held in conjunction with the sixth annual meeting of the Pacific Division of the Association at Salt Lake City, June 22 to 24, 1922, promises to be a very successful meeting.

Salt Lake City offers many advantages as a meeting place. The center of a rich agricultural and mining section, it has large and important commercial and manufacturing interests. But it is perhaps chiefly famed for its scenic attractions drawing every year thousands of tourists by auto and railway from all parts of the country. The opportunity will be seized by many who will wish to com-

bine a pleasure trip to one of the most interesting sections of the west with the advantages of a scientific meeting.

The hosts of the Salt Lake City meeting will be the University of Utah, the Utah Academy of Sciences, the Utah Agricultural College and the Brigham Young University. Arrangements will be made for the comfort and entertainment of visitors. The meeting will be held under the auspices of the Pacific Division of the Association. Dr. Barton Warren Evermann, the president of the Pacific Division, American Association for the Advancement of Science, will preside at the general sessions and will deliver the presidential address at the opening session on Thursday evening, June 22. He will speak on "The conservation and proper utilization of our natural resources."

An outstanding feature of the meeting will be a symposium on "The Problems of the Colorado River." The great reclamation project which has for its object the utilization of the waters of the Colorado River has already attracted wide attention. It is proposed to consider in this symposium the scientific aspects of the problems involved. The arrangement of the symposium is as follows: 1. General description of the Colorado River: Mr. E. C. La Rue, hydraulic engineer, United States Geological Survey, Pasadena, California. 2. Archeology of the Colorado River Basin: Professor H. R. Fairclough, Stanford University, California. 3. Geology of the Colorado River Basin: Dr. Frederick J. Pack, Deseret professor, department of geology, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah. 4. The conservation of the waters of the Colorado River from the standpoint of the Reclamation Service: Mr. Frank E. Weymouth, chief of construction, United States Reclamation Service, Denver, Colorado. 5. The interstate and international aspects of the Colorado River problem: Dr. C. E. Grunsky,

vice-president of the Pacific Division, American Association for the Advancement of Science, San Francisco, California.

The evening address will be given by Professor James Harvey Robinson, head of the New School of Social Science, New York City, the distinguished historian of human evolution.

While none of the sections of the national association will arrange to hold sessions at this summer meeting the various fields of science will be represented in the meetings of the affiliated societies of the Pacific Division. Those scheduled to hold meetings at Salt Lake City are:

The American Physical Society.

The American Meteorological Society.

The American Phytopathological Society, Pacific Division.

The Ecological Society of America.

The Society of American Foresters.

The Cooper Ornithological Club.

The Pacific Coast Entomological Society.

The Pacific Slope Branch, American Association of Economic Entomologists.

The Plant Physiologists.

The Utah Academy of Sciences.

The Western Psychological Association.

The Western Society of Naturalists.

#### AN AMERICAN ANTHROPOID PRIMATE

At the recent meeting of the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, Dr. Henry Fairfield Osborn announced the discovery of a tooth giving evidence of a pre-historic and unknown species of anthropoid intermediate between the ape and the earliest man. This discovery made by Harold J. Cook, of Agate, Nebraska, in the middle Pliocene formations of that state, in addition to being important scientifically, has a timely interest because of the attacks that during the past few months have been launched at the ground work of

science through the zeal of opponents of the facts of the evolution of man, and has a dramatic or comic aspect in that it comes from the home state of William Jennings Bryan.

Worn by use when its owner was alive, and worn by water in the centuries since, this tooth matches no known tooth of ape or man, modern or extinct. It is very different from the tooth of the gorilla, the gibbon or the orang. It is nearest to that of the chimpanzee but the resemblance is still remote. Nor does it resemble very closely any human molar, although it is nearer to the human than to the ape type of tooth. Consequently Dr. Osborn classifies it as a new species and genus and names it *Hesperopithecus haroldcookii*, which being translated back from the biologist's Latin means "the anthropoid from the west discovered by Harold Cook." The fossil was found in the upper phase of the Snake River beds, associated with remains of the rhinoceros, camel, Asiatic antelope and an early form of the horse, now extinct.

In 1908 the American Museum of Natural History received a similar tooth but it was so water-worn that it could not be safely identified. But the new specimen looks so much like the other that it may belong to the same species and gives hope that other parts may be found in this field.

The remarkable feature of the discovery lies in the fact that hitherto no specimens of anthropoid primates, ancient or modern, have been discovered in America, although they are common in the Old World. It is possible that this Nebraska tooth will open a new chapter in geological history which may throw light on the vexed question of the origin of man.

According to Dr. Osborn, the animal is a new genus of anthropoid, probably one which wandered over here from Asia with the large south Asiatic element which has recently